A Retribution--Knights of the Golden Circle trial

Memphis Daily Appeal Feb 26, 1862; pg. 2

A Retribution—Knights of the Golden Circle trial.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.]

Our readers will recollect that Mr. Hadder, the editor of the Marion (O.) *Mirror*, and a number of other prominent Democrats in that county, were charged with being members of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," a treasonable organization, and were dragged to Cleveland and brought before the United States district court to answer for the offense. They were discharged, as the report said, for want of evidence against them. It plainly appeared upon the trial that the accusation was the result of Republican partisan malignity, and was made for the purpose of influencing the election. The proceeding was an atrocious one, and the sequel to it looks very much like moral retribution The editor of the Marion *Mirror* says:

"We were honorably discharged, and in less than ten days thereafter the prosecuting witness was a corpse—having died of fear and remorse—and another witness had fled the country to avoid prosecution for perjury. Nor is this all. We learn that Chaney—who will be remembered as a prominent witness against us—last week was shot in Kentucky as a deserter to his country! And those making the arrests are to-day the scorn and contempt of their neighbors, looked upon with suspicion by every one, and cow before that look. What a fearful retribution!"

In Morrow county a similar scene was enacted! A number of Democrats were arrested and taken up to Cleveland. They were subjected to trouble and expense, and like those arrested in Marion county, honorably discharged. The indictors of the proceedings against them, Messrs. Rose and Moore, two men who were instrumental in the subsequent prosecution, although in Kentucky—like Captain Brown and Sergeant Dickerson—when the trials came off, were both brought home week before last, and were buried, both having died near the same time at the government hospital.

So much for the finale to the Knights of the Golden Circle organization in Ohio, out of which the Republican press sought to manufacture so much capital. Fraud, rascality and oppression in office seldom prosper, although a brief period they may compass their ends. The future has a bitter settlement in store for others who now lift up their heads high, and who have been guilty of even greater of acts of villainy.